

In 1814 Drs. Jonathan French and Uriel Wright began their residence in this town. Dr. French was from Newburyport in Massachusetts, where he had very successfully devoted his efforts to his profession for fifteen years. He was a skilful physician, possessing a finished education, and refined in his deportment. He came here to relieve himself from an exhausting practice. He designed, also, to engage in the lumber business. He had, however, while here, many professional calls. Not succeeding in lumbering to his expectation, he remained but two or three years. Dr. Wright, who came at the same time, was then a young man from Berkshire County, Massachusetts. He has consequently practiced medicine here forty-one years. Part of this time he has had a ride of fifteen or twenty miles around, often through a desolate wilderness. Though the frosts of many winters have whitened his few remaining hairs, he may still be seen breasting the storm with a resolute spirit to reach the sick and suffering.

In 1834 Dr. Edwin Eldridge came, and had a limited practice of about two years.

In 1837 Dr. Rodney Hermes began his practice of medicine in this place. He was from Sullivan County, New York, and had recently entered upon his profession. He still resides here as one of the physicians of this township.

Dr. Frederick Tracy began the practice of medicine here in 1851. After a practice of about two years he removed his residence from this place.

XII. HUNTERS.

There is another class of men who deserve a notice in the history of this town. They do so from the fact that their work is now done. If, therefore, it is not written, it must be left to an uncertain tradition. I refer to the *hunter*. There are emergencies in a hunter's life which educe the qualities of the man. There are few men who are or can be hunters. A thoughtless boy can shoot an innocent robin or a merry squirrel, who gives you a lively chirp before he dodges into his underground room: but he is *no hunter*. There are emergencies in a hunter's life which require the most sterling traits of character, such as would make him a Leonidas or a Bonaparte, if in their circumstances. He must be a man of the utmost coolness in the midst of the most terrific scenes, quick and judicious in his movements, and of indomitable perseverance and bravery. The men who have proved these qualities in conflict with the fierce animals of the wilderness deserve our notice.

The first instance, though somewhat amusing, shows the tenacity with which a hunter will cling to his prey. It seems Mr. John Tiffany and Mr. Elijah Peck were hunting deer, and shot at a large buck. He fell to the ground. Mr. Tiffany immediately ran to cut his throat and remove the blood. When he had grasped his horns, with one foot on each side of his body, the animal instantly rose with him upon his back, and ran off at the top of his